

# MAGI-GRAM

Official Newsletter of IBM Ring 50 -- The National Capital Ring -- Volume 72 No. 8 August 2018

## RING 50 HAS MAGICAL APPERATUS NIGHT

*Phillips & Curry Lecture Slated for Sept 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting*

### August 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting Highlights

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Larry Lipman began the meeting with some comments about his year in office as the Ring 50 President and thanked the outgoing officers for last year of service.

As traditional Larry had the Counts of Conjuring instructor **Louis Meyer** introduced one of his pupils in the Counts of Conjuring class, **Sean Mulvaney** to perform an opening magic effect an opening magic effect that he was working on his own.



'Count' Sean Mulvaney (r) performs his version of ACAAN magic with Christophe Jelenski.

**International Brotherhood  
of Magicians Ring 50  
The National Capital Ring**

#### President

Stan Hillard  
president@ibmring50.org

#### Vice President

Craig Fifer  
vp@ibmring50.org

#### Secretary

Marc Carrion  
secretary@ibmring50.org

#### Treasurer

Mike Peckham  
treasurer@ibmring50.org

#### Sergeant-at-Arms

Sam Brothers  
sgtarms@ibmring50.org

#### Magi-Gram Editor

Bob Patterson

## TVP Inducts Ring 50 Officers into Office



Mike Peckham, Sam Brothers, Craig Fifer Dwight Redman, Stan Hillard, Larry Lipman, Danny Selnick, John Roberts, and Bob Patterson.

Territorial Vice President Dwight Redman, using the Eight Points of Light, installed the following Ring 50 members as officers: President Stan Hillard, Vice President Craig Fifer, Secretary Marc Carrion, Treasurer Michael Peckham, Sergeant-at-Arms Sam Brothers, and the following members as the Board of Directors: Larry Lipman, Danny Selnick, John Roberts, and Bob Patterson as an Emeritus Board Member.

(continued on page 2)

# August 1st Meeting Highlights

(continued from page 1)

President **Stan Hillard** presented the outgoing president **Larry Lipman** with a plaque for our appreciation for Services as Ring President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians National Capital Ring 50, 2017 – 2018



*President Stan Hillard and Past President Larry Lipman.*

Board member **Danny Selnick** described the accomplishments of long time Ring 50 member **John Roberts**. President **Stan Hillard** presented John with a special incased wand in appreciation for all of his successful accomplishments. John joined Ring 50 in April 1987, Ring 50 President 1992-1993, TVP of the National Capital Region, and received the SABAR Award 1996.



*President Stan Hillard presents John Roberts with appreciation award.*

Past International President of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, **Robert Patterson** presented an Award of Excellence from the I.B.M. Linking Ring to **John Roberts** for his One Man Parades April 2017 and February 2018.



*John Roberts receives Linking Ring award from past I.B.M. international President Robert Patterson.*

President Hillard announced the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a lecture by **Mark Phillips** and **Brian Curry**. It will be a lecture with a good bit of the magic they use in their show intertwined with their narrative and how the process of putting their successful show together "Dueling Magicians" at the Mayflower,



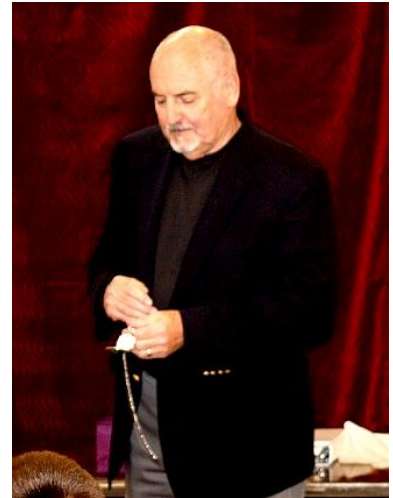
*Mark Phillips and Brian Curry to lecture at Ring 50, Sept 5.*



As luck would have it, the 50/50 raffle for \$55 was won by **Stan Hillard** who donated his share back to Ring 50.

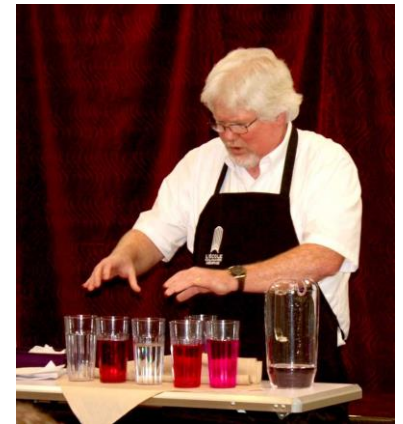
Thanks Stan!!

# MAGICAL APPERATUS NIGHT



*Stan Hillard and his magical watch.*

**Stan Hillard** was first in line to perform. He began his "Somewhere in Time" segment by showing a pocket watch on a chain. He opened the watch and closed it. Suddenly the watch vanished. All that remained was the chain. He put the chain in his palm and it vanished too. This was a very impressive routine.



*Bartender Chuck Jones*

**Chuck Jones**, the bartender, poured from a pitcher a glass of water and drank from it. Then he talked about pouring various drinks from the same pitcher of water into 5 more glasses. The second was a glass of red wine, then a glass of gin, fourth was red wine.

(continued on page 3)

# MAGICAL APPERATUS NIGHT

(continued from page 2)

Chuck poured the contents of the first glasses (water and red wine) together making more red wine. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> glasses (water and red wine) were mixed together resulting in clear water for both. He then poured water from the pitcher into the 5<sup>th</sup> glass and it changed into milk. Finally he preferred beer over the wine and it was poured from the water pitcher into the last glass.

(Tarbell Vol 8, pg. 45)



*Mike Peckham with ropes and a Dean Dill box.*

**Mike Peckham** performed a amazing effect with a Dean Dill Box. He had a white rope and a red rope along with a box with a door that allows a complete view of the interior of the box and two large holes in the sides. The box was closed. Mike made a loop in the red rope and entered it in the box through the side holes and the same for the white rope. He poked them thru a hole in the top and then removed his hand from the box. The two ropes had linked inside the wooden box. The ropes were genuinely linked together and could

be examined. This was repeated with the ends held by two spectators. Of course, the assumption is the two different colored ropes will be pulled right through the holes of the box - but in fact, the two ropes magically became connected - and a mini tug of war was created as both spectators attempted to pull their ropes out, but can't because they were connected! Once again the two loops on top of the box were then trapped by a wand. Even though the ends of the ropes were in full view the entire time, when the wand was removed and the door was opened it was seen that the ropes were now genuinely linked together. Then he put one of the ropes in the box with the ends out each side of the box. He showed a solid ring that was examined and simply tossed it in the box. "Cha-Ching!" The performer opens the front door to reveal the magic - The Ring had penetrated the Rope!



*Danny Selnick about to reveal his prediction.*

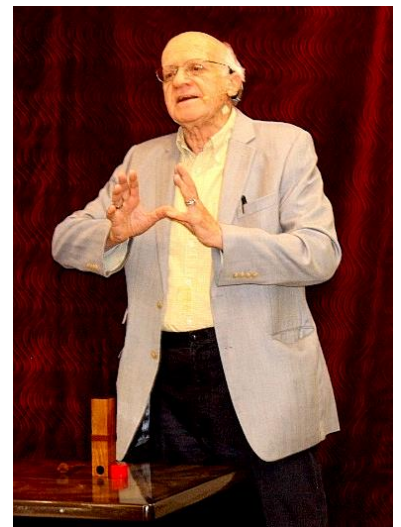
**Danny Selnick** using Trio by Astor Magic told of the many types of mentalism; Telekinesis, Telepathy, and Psychokinesis. He went on to exhibit his mentalistic powers. Three predictions were written by the Magician on a transparent plexiglass card stand. A spectator shuffles the deck and places the cards face down on the

table. He then selects three cards at random from the face down deck. These are placed in the holder on the plexiglass stand. When the stand is turned around it is found the predictions are exact matches with the cards selected by the spectator



*Cristian Vidrascu shows the size of the magic box.*

**Cristian Vidrascu** opened the 4 inch black Gozinta Box and inside was a red box. The red box was smaller - it was removed, and the black box was closed. From the red box he removed a small ball, the ball grew in his hands. Now it does not fit in the red box. Then he picked up the black box put it into the red box. The black box was now smaller than the red box!



*Arnold Fuoco describes how the Ultimate Block Penetration is supposed to work.*

# MAGICAL APPERATUS NIGHT

(continued from page 3)

**Arnold Fuoco** performed his version of the Ultimate Block Penetration by Tony Curtis Magic. He displayed a wooden tube, a wooden “sword”, along with a bright red block with a hole running through its center. The magician then openly inserted the sword through the holes in the sides of the tube, blocking its passage. The block was then dropped into the tube where it is heard to stop as it hits the sword. Now, the performer merely taps the tube against the table and the block magically penetrates the sword and ends up visibly in the window at the front of the tube! The sword was then removed and shown to be perfectly solid! The infamous magician now offers to repeat the trick. However, after the tube was tapped, the block does not fall out! The performer said he didn’t know what went wrong as he couldn’t get this to work. So, he opened the tube at the center and it was seen that the block was now impaled onto the sword! Everything was then handed out for complete examination.



*Joe Mielnicki begins his fantastic  
Cups and Balls routine.*

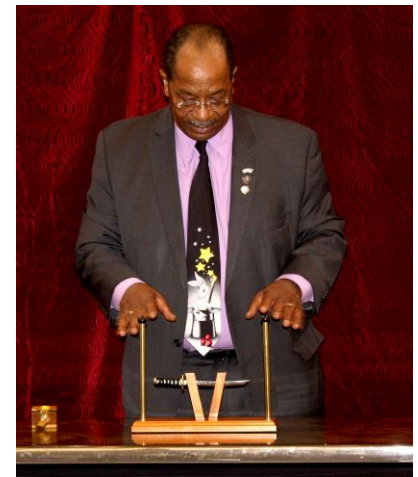
**Joe Mielnicki** (J.T. the Unstoppable) performed an outstanding cups and ball routine. The cups and balls is a performance of magic with innumerable adaptations. A typical cups and balls routine includes many of the most fundamental effects of magic: the balls can vanish, appear, transpose, reappear and transform. Joe’s routine consisted of vanishing the three balls, to reappear under the cups, the penetration of the balls through the cups, the spectator choosing which cup to invisibly transport a ball to, the removal and return of the balls, and the revelation of the final large production items, several fruits, and a large Ball. Proving the hand is quicker than the eye!



*John Roberts and the amazing  
vanishing coin box.*

**John Roberts** demonstrated his skills with a beautiful large coin box that he had made. He showed the box to be empty by opening the front and back doors. He retrieved a giant replica of a coin and explained that he could make it vanish using his magic box. He opened one of doors and placed the coin inside. With all the doors closed he explained the coin will vanish. He tip the box side to side, there was a loud clunk each time the box was tipped, thus telling the audience the coin was just sliding side to side. He opened the front door opposite where the coin has

landed to reveal it had vanished. The audience immediately informed him that it's on the other side. He tipped the box so that the coin slides the other way and now opens the door the audience wanted. He does it again until the audience was begging to see all doors open at once. Finally he opened all the doors showing front and back revealing coin had vanished.



*TVP Dwight Redman displays the  
beautiful Samurai sword.*

**Dwight Redman** displayed a small Samurai sword and placed it on display stand. A bag covered the sword. He then borrowed a finger ring from an audience member. He placed the solid ring on a shoelace while the ends of it are in full view and held by the spectator the ring penetrated the shoelace. This was repeated and again the ring suddenly appeared to melt off while the spectator was holding it! He did it again only this time the spectator’s had ring vanished. The magician gave a key and a small box to the spectator. When he opened the box was a message to check the Samurai sword that was under the cloth covering. When the cover was removed there was the ring trapped on the sword in the stand.

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# MAGICAL APPERATUS NIGHT

(continued from page 4)



*Christophe Jelenski in a trance with the spectator to read his mind.*

**Christophe Jelenski**, the Mentalist, threw a paper ball into the audience. The person catching the ball then selected a spectator, Brendan Mulvaney. The amazing mentalist gave several magazines to Brendan and he was to select any one of them. He was told to page through the magazine and select any page that had paragraphs of words, not a page of pictures. Read through the article and find any large word and remember it. The amazing mentalist wrote a prediction on the large pad. He ask the spectator what letter did the word he select start with. He said “H”. Then Christophe said was the word “heroic”? Brendan said “No”. When the mentalist turned the pad around he had predicted correctly he spectator’s reply “No” on the pad. Next the mentalist Christophe concentrated on the spectator and wrote a word on the pad. He had the spectator hold the pad without looking at it on his chest and announced the word he selected. When the pad was turned around it matched the word exactly!!

This was a grand evening and perhaps we will do it again sometime in the future.

## THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER



### Is Your Magic “Art” or Are You Simply “Doing Tricks”?

Albert Einstein once said, “The most beautiful experience we can have is the mysterious. It is the fundamental emotion that stands at the cradle of true art and true science.”

As I think about this quotation I am reminded of discussions during this past month at the 2018 IBM Convention in Grand Rapids that were intended to define the true nature of our art and whether, in fact, magic is actually an art form at all. Several presenters talked about this tangentially in their lectures. The answer, in my opinion, is sometimes it is, and sometimes it isn’t. Clearly we should all be continually moving toward producing a magical experience for our audience – small or large. Your membership in the IBM and Ring 50 should be helping you to accomplish this goal.

So what am I talking about? The dictionary defines art this way, “The conscious production or arrangement of sounds, colors, forms, movements, or other elements in a manner that affects the sense of beauty. High quality of conception or execution, as found in works of beauty: aesthetic value.” Many magicians, particularly those who are new to magic, do not embrace the breadth of effort it takes to go from “doing

tricks” to producing a “magical experience”. Fooling someone with a trick may produce a degree of mystery and send the audience away with questions and curiosity as to what just happened, but I would suggest it does not necessarily produce an artful magical experience – the enhancement of beauty either through form or function. At the I.B.M. Convention in Grand Rapids, Lois and I witnessed two young ladies from the People’s Republic of China that literally blew the audience away. They wore colorful traditional Chinese costumes, were surrounded by colorful and interesting theme oriented stage props, and displayed movements choreographed to carefully chosen music. It was ten minutes of seamless art and magic effectively disguising where one began and the other ended. They won the competition hands down. I will not remember the specific magic they performed but I will never forget the experience of seeing them do what they did.

Achieving the magical has nothing to do with the type of trick being performed. If you watch Juliana Chen do her stage show with wonderful lighted images at the beginning followed by exquisite card manipulation you walk away knowing you just experienced something magical. If you watch Shin Lim do his card manipulation routines with a simple deck of cards and a performance pad, you know you’ve just seen something special and the artistry displayed is obvious. The coin magic of Ryan Hayashi and the drama and skill he displays in something as common as performing the coin matrix becomes a demonstration that is in my opinion art. The drama, music, images, movements, and unequalled skill push these performances across the threshold that separates “trick performers” from “magical artists”. We walk away awed by the

experience they have provided. We want to create those same feelings when doing our own magic.

Jeff McBride talks of all the things he has done to make his performances go beyond just performing tricks: instruction in dance, kabuki theatre, martial arts, study of cultural and mystical music, costuming, special sounds, and the list goes on and on. He brings all of these things together not just to show you a trick but to give you a magical experience.

As the new President of I.B.M. Ring 50, I feel an obligation to do those things that allow us all to move forward in our practice of magic. Introducing more presentational art is an appropriate step in achieving that better magical experience.

Your Board of Directors is currently working on a proposal to upgrade significantly the equipment we have available to enhance our performances. We will look at the purchase of an audio and video projection system this fall that will allow close-up and other magic to be experienced by all our membership no matter where they sit in our meeting room. We have also negotiated a slightly larger room for our monthly meetings to produce an improved meeting experience. We will endeavor to bring lectures that demonstrate creativity and an artful approach to magic as well as selling you new and interesting magical products. And two or three special trips/activities are being considered for this next year depending on the interest we can generate.

Louis Meier has done a wonderful job with the Counts of Conjuring and we are hopeful this program can grow with the acquiring of new youth members and the providing of additional opportunities for them to perform.

Planning for Magi-Whirl 2019 is already underway and we need your help. Danny Selnick and Craig

Fifer will be Convention co-chairs and their work is already bearing fruit. A number of performers, lecturers, and dealers have been approached and I am enthusiastic about the responses we're getting. Stand-by for regular updates as we move into next year and be ready to pitch in.

As always let me know how you feel and what you want. You will receive a survey via email in the next few weeks. Please take this opportunity to tell us how you feel.

May your everyday start and end with all of life's magic – great and small.

*Stan Hillard*



Dwight Redman -	13-Aug
Matt Hiller -	13-Aug
Herb Hughes -	16-Aug
Edward Kaczka -	16-Aug
Bob Patterson -	20-Aug
Dick Steiner -	23-Aug
Michael Wolfson -	24-Aug
Jason Goldberg -	25-Aug
Tommy Meeker -	28-Aug
Richard Cohn -	15-Sep
Keith Harmon -	19-Sep

## My Ring?

### International Brotherhood of Magicians

What kind of a Ring would my Ring be

If all of the members were just like me?

You can thoughtfully ask yourself that question;

If not, perhaps it's a swell suggestion.

You can sit by the fireside, smoking your pipe,

Find fault with the officers, censure and gripe;

Or you can be one who is always on call

Both ready and willing to carry the ball.

To your fellow members you soon will be known

As a true loyal worker...or else a drone.

You can pass on new members, or you can refuse

To take any part beyond paying your dues.

You can stand on the sidelines or do a trick or two;

Attend every meeting or just stay away as some do.

Whatever your talents, some job you can do.

So say to yourself as the past you review;

What kind of a Ring would my Ring be

If all the members were just like me?

Howard E. Eldridge, Jr.  
Territorial Vice-president -  
New York State  
287 Colvin Ave.  
Buffalo, NY 14216  
(submitted by TVP Dwight Redman)

## September 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 Ring 50 Lecture by The Magic Duel Team



The September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a lecture by **Mark Phillips and Brian Curry**. It will be a lecture with a good bit of the magic they use in their show intertwined with their narrative and how the process of putting their successful show together "Dueling Magicians" at the Mayflower,

The lecture will begin after a short business meeting (7:30 Meeting). Come on down for this event to the Holiday Inn, 2460 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA,



### Magicians' Alliance of Eastern States

**September 6 - 8, 2018**  
Adult Member - \$120  
Adult Non-Member - \$125

The 2018 MAES convention will be held at Crowne Plaza Cherry Hill 2349 West Marlton Pike Cherry Hill, NJ 08002, Hotel Reservations: 888-233-9527. Room rates are \$121 per night plus taxes. Featuring Jonathan Neal and Liane, Gene Anderson, Marc Salem, Meir Yedid, the Montreal Trio, Francis Menotti, Marcus Eddie, Nicolas Dutel, Joe Rindfleisch, David London, and Christopher Hart.



August 2018

## IBM Ring 50 Schedule

(Subject to Change)

Sep 5 .... Phillips & Curry  
Lecture  
Oct 3 .... TBA  
Nov 7 ... Past Presidents  
Perform  
Dec 5 ... Children's Holiday  
Show

### Keep Your I.B.M. Membership Current



You must be an active member of I.B.M. to belong to Ring 50. If you haven't already, don't forget to keep your membership active in the International Brotherhood of Magicians to enjoy the benefits of membership. Send dues to: International Brotherhood of Magicians, 13 Point West Blvd, St. Charles, Missouri, USA 63301

## Ring 50 New Members & Applications

New members are always welcome at Ring 50. You must be interested in magic (full time or part time performer, hobbyist, collector, etc.)

You must join and be an active member of International Brotherhood of Magicians to belong to Ring 50.

Be sure to keep your membership active in the I.B.M. to enjoy the benefits of membership. Send your I.B.M. dues to: International Brotherhood of Magicians, 13 Point West Blvd, St. Charles, Missouri, USA 63301

## Other Conventions & Shows

**Aug 31-Sep 2, 2018**  
**Midwest Magic Jubilee**  
St Louis, MO  
**Registration \$150.00**  
Spouse FREE  
<http://mmjubilee.com/>

**Sept 27 - 29, 2018**  
**Atlanta Harvest of Magic**  
Atlanta, GA  
**Registration \$165.00**  
Spouse \$95.00  
[www.atlantaharvestofmagic.com](http://www.atlantaharvestofmagic.com)

Aug 22-25, 2018  
KIDabra  
Pigeon Forge, TN  
**Registration: \$270.00**  
Spouse \$135.00  
<http://www.kidabra.org>

**The 2019 I.B.M. convention**  
will be in Scottsdale, AZ,  
July 10 – 13, 2019.  
**Early Bird Registration \$239.00**  
(until Aug 25, 2018)  
**Spouse \$210.00**  
**See you there!**  
**Reserve your Talking**  
**Stick Resort room early!!!**

## Counts of Conjuring Meets September 5, 6:00 pm



The International Brotherhood of Magicians, National Capitol Ring 50, "Counts of Conjuring" meets first Wednesday of every month at the Holiday Inn at 2460 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA. at 6:00pm. The "Counts" is a way for youths to learn about magic and the performance of magic.

Louis the Magician teaches the *Discover Magic* course. This is an amazing course that not only will teach the youths magic but will also teach them important "life-skills". This class is normally taught in after-school programs and summer camps and costs \$275 per child but will be FREE for the Counts of Conjuring (only cost is \$40 for the actual magic tricks).

Each month the youths will learn one new magic trick and have a chance to perform it. The Counts of Conjuring is for youths 8 to 17 years.

**September 5, 2018, 6:00pm**

### Magic Quickies Needed

Send John Roberts a short trick you would like to share with newsletter readers. He will pick the best one (in his judgement), one for each edition of the Magi-Gram. There are no guidelines other than the entry should be brief, simple, doable and fun; the offbeat and quirky are encouraged. Send to John: [Barjorobts@comcast.net](mailto:Barjorobts@comcast.net)

August 2018

*A Magic Quickie*

Edited by  
John Roberts

### Steve Jobs & Me

This trick, by an anonymous author, was found in a book called "Party Magic from the Magic Castle" edited by Leo Behnke. I have changed the basic handling and written all new patter.

**Effect:** Before he died, Steve Jobs granted me a rare job interview. He casually showed me a fan of cards divided into reds and blacks. He said "Here John, deal these 12 cards into two piles, red and black." I looked at him questioningly.

*"But with all due respect Sir, they are already grouped into reds and blacks." He said, "I know that, I want you to divide them 'innovatively; 'creatively' – it's what we do here at Apple Inc. Think outside the box!"*

So I said, "How about I spell them into two piles, according to color – like this." I thumbed off three face down cards, spelling "R-E-D" and placed them on the bottom of the pile. I dealt the next one face up and it was red. Then I thumbed off five cards, spelling "B-L-A-C-K", put them on the bottom and dealt the next card, a black, beside the red. Steve Jobs looked non-committal. I proceeded in this fashion until I had two piles of cards one red and one black.

I waited for the great man to speak. Finally he said "Okay, I'm impressed. That was a very novel way to divide the cards.

I said, eagerly, "So does that mean I get the job, Mr. Jobs?"

"No."

"But – But why not?"

"I don't like your shirt."

And that is why I didn't get a job with Jobs.

**Setup:** Six red and six black cards arranged as follows: five black cards on the right side, six reds on the left.

Rough and smooth is applied so that the face of a black card adheres to the back of a red card placed second from the right in the row of red cards.

**Performance:** Start with the red cards face down on the top of the packet, the blacks face down on the bottom. The trick is basically self-working. You thumb off batches of three or five cards without changing their order and place them on the bottom before revealing the top card. When you have four red cards and three black cards on the table, you will have five cards in your left hand which must be taken off individually (instead of blocks) and placed on the bottom. Continue in this mode to end.

**Note:** After you place the first red card on the table, the two top cards in your left hand are R/S and must be separated when counting the bloc to be put on the bottom.

*John S. Roberts*







## KAPITAL KIDVENTION 2019

January 25th-28th, 2019

Hilton Mark Center  
5000 Seminary Rd, Alexandria, VA 22311

Kidvention has everything for the Children's Entertainer. Whether you are a magician, clown, face painter, or balloon artist! We will have 3 days of classes for everyone. Including tons of business classes to get more gigs! We have over 20 different presenters this year!

ATTEND THE MEETING



### Membership

Have YOU brought a prospective member to the meeting? They must be interested in magic and be a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians.

Applications are available from the Treasurer.

### RING 50 MEETING LOCATION

#### **Holiday Inn**

2460 Eisenhower Ave  
Alexandria, VA.

6:00 Counts of Conjuring

6:00 Dinner

7:30 Meeting